

Remarks

Claims 1-13 again stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 as being either anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,930,512 to Boden et al. (“Boden”) (paper no. 4, page 2) or unpatentable over Boden in view of other cited art (paper no. 4, pages 3-6). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections for the reasons set forth in the previous amendment and for the additional reasons set forth below.

As applicants have previously noted, claim 1 (upon which the remaining claims depend) is directed to a method of optimizing a workflow management system (WFMS) in which an object—i.e., a process model or one of its instantiations—is transferred from a WFMS database to an archive database. Boden, on the other hand, merely archives data (an insurance application) being managed by an insurance model (Figs. 1-5); there is no notion of archiving an object in the form of a process model or one of its instantiations as claimed by applicants.

The Examiner counters (paper no. 4, page 7) by citing the passage at column 12, lines 42-64, of Boden describing the workflow server 120 (Figs. 6-7). In pertinent part, that passage states that the workflow server 120 has a buildtime module and a runtime module (lines 43-44), that FlowMark provides “as many separate FlowMark databases as are needed” (lines 58-59), and that one database may be used for developing and testing workflow models while another is used for executing tested models and operational processes (lines 62-64). All of this, however, has nothing to do with transferring an object of a WFMS database to an archive database as claimed by applicants. Neither the development database nor the production database functions as an “archive database” relative to the other, nor is there any suggestion of transferring objects from one database to the other. Even if objects were transferred from one of these databases to the other, such transfer would be for the purpose of using such objects productively or for development, not archiving them as is implicit in the recited term “archive database”.¹ On the contrary, any such transferred objects would be subject to replacement by other objects as the databases are updated—the very antithesis of an “archive database”.

¹ The online encyclopedia Webopedia (<http://www.webopedia.com/>) thus defines the verb “archive” as “[t]o copy files to a long-term storage medium for backup” and the corresponding noun as “[a] disk, tape, or directory that contains files that have been backed up” (hyperlinks omitted).

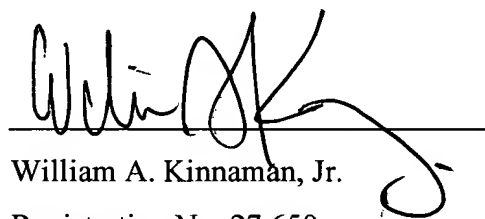
Accordingly, Boden does not teach transferring an object to an archive database as claimed by applicant and thus fails to anticipate claim 1 or render it obvious. Since the rejections of the remaining claims are predicated on the basic rejection of claim 1 on Boden, these rejections must fail as well.

Conclusion

Entry of this response and reconsideration of the application in the light of the above remarks is respectfully requested. It is hoped that upon such consideration the Examiner will hold all claims allowable and pass the case to issue at an early date. Such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'William A. Kinnaman, Jr.', is written over a horizontal line.

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